

US Army Corps of Engineers

SWF Partnership Program

- aka – Stimulus Program that keeps on Giving!!

Douglas Cox – Regional Partnership PM  
 Dorie Murphy – Community Resource Coordinator

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ER/EP 1130-2-500 Partners and Support

- Chapter 9 – Cooperating Associations Program
- Chapter 10 – Volunteer Program
- Chapter 11 – Contributions Program
- Chapter 12 – Challenge Partnership Program

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Regional Partnership PM  
Duties and Responsibilities

YF-0401-2

- Works under general supervision of Chief, Technical Support Branch
- Provides NSPS ratings for SWF regional Community Resource Coordinators (CRC) and any other district staff involved full-time in the partnership program.
- Support OPM's resource leveraging partnership initiatives with targeted local municipalities/civic groups (ie. OPM, CRC, BLM, and/or Site Managers).
- Assist OPM in the development of appropriate Volunteer Programs, Partnership Agreements, Memoranda of Understandings, and any necessary Real Estate Outgrants in order to execute these programs.
- Assist OPM's in building their "Recreation Constituencies" and "Market" the Corps recreation program.
- Prepare and conduct training for SWF employees regarding various resource leveraging techniques to include: establishment and management of volunteer programs, building/managing Non-Profit Corporations/Foundations, developing local constituencies by establishing municipal partnerships, and utilization of the appropriate out-grant instruments, etc.
- Facilitate sharing of success stories and lessons learned by establishing and maintaining a regional partnership community of practice. Coordinate these efforts with HQUSACE staff.

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## Present Day – Management Decision

- In order to further Reduce O&M Expenditures – Either:
  - Maintain all Parks in a Declining manner (until they are closed for Safety/Environmental reasons), or
  - Reduce number of USACE Operated Parks and redirect O&M dollars to areas that will provide quality outdoor recreation, or
  - Cooperatively Manage Parks with Cooperating Association and/or Challenge Partnership Agreements and subsequent leases.

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## Management Authorization

**EP 1130-2-550** – Chapter 3-5, para. g. (2) Recreation. Includes within it's definition of recreation:

Areas for concession, resort, and quasi-public development.

**EP 1130-2-550** – Chapter 2-3, para. b (f) directs Managers to:

- Establish a project wide cost effective program to rehabilitate recreational facilities whenever feasible to increase visitor satisfaction while reducing O&M costs.
- Consolidate areas and/or close and discontinue facilities that are under utilized.

**WRDA** – Public Law 102-580, dtd. 31 Oct. 92, Sec. 225. Challenge cost-sharing program for the management of recreation facilities:

- (a) The Secretary authorized to develop and implement a program to share the cost of managing recreation facilities and natural resources at water resource development projects under the Secretary's jurisdiction.
- (b) **Cooperative Agreements.** – To implement the program, the Secretary authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with non-Federal public and private entities to provide for operation and management of recreation facilities and natural resources at civil works projects where facilities and resources maintained at complete Federal expense.

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## Management Authorization – con't

**EP 1130-2-550 Chapter 9, Cooperating Associations Program, Para. 9-2 Guidance – General.**

- (a) **Cooperating Associations** are encouraged at Civil Works water resource projects, fee owned lands and other areas for which the Corps has administrative and management responsibilities.
- (b) **Associations** are non-profit, tax-exempt corporations whose partnership with the Corps results in the enhancement of and contributions to the Corps mission, particularly in regard to natural resource management. Agreements will be entered into as determined appropriate by the District Commander.

**ER 405-1-12 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION FOR COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT Lease.**

- Para 5. "The use and occupation of the premises shall be subject to the general supervision of the District Engineer, hereinafter referred to as said officer, and to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed from time to time by said officer, including any special provisions that may be established due to the cooperative joint management of the premises by the Lessee and the United States as contemplated by the Agreement

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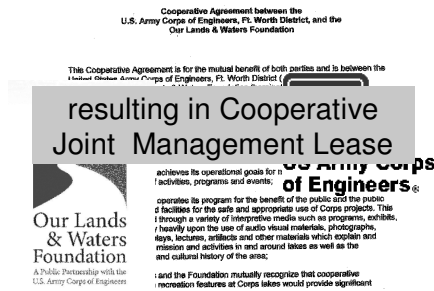
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## Established the OLWF

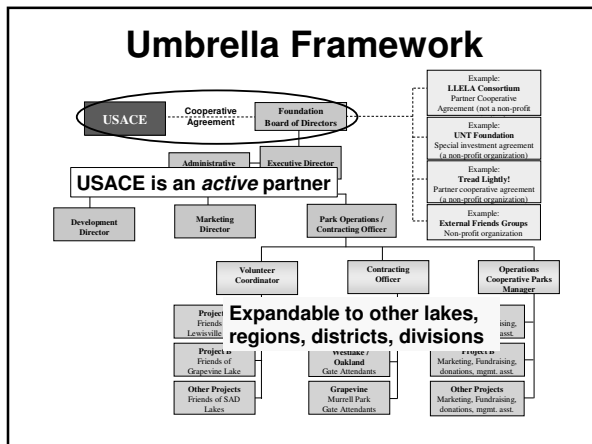




### US Army Corps of Engineers



## Our Lands and Waters Foundation

- Specified Purposes:
  - A. Promote advancement of the work of the US Army Corps of Engineers including such projects that reduce flood damage, improve navigation channels and harbors, protect wetlands, and preserve, safeguard and enhance the environment.
  - B. Provide educational and volunteer activities that support the work of the Corps.
  - C. Support through funding and marketing the recreational activities for the public, specifically those related to and enhanced by the Corps of Engineers lakes and properties/facilities.
  - D. Create and implement programs to raise public awareness of the environmental needs of the communities in which the Corps operates, and
  - E. Raise funds to support all of the above purposes.

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## SWF District – Partnerships

- Our Lands and Waters Foundation (OLWF)
- City of The Colony – Trinity Region - Lewisville Lake –
  - Denton County population: 584,238
  - City of The Colony population: 40,206
- Jasper County – Piney Woods Region - Sam Rayburn Lake –
  - Jasper County population: 35,293
  - Jasper City population: 8,500
- Burleson County - Capitol Region - Lake Somerville –
  - Burleson County population: 16,932
  - City of Somerville population: 1,686

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## Partnership - OLWF

- **USACE - Cooperating Association with OLWF - 501 (c)(3) Cooperative Joint ve Management of USACE Missions – Status:**
- **Oct. 07** - Cooperative Agreement Signed
- **Nov. 08** - Leased Old HQ building, Lewisville - use as OLWF HQ
- **Jan. 09** - Cooperative Park & Rec. Lease - Lewisville Lake - Hickory Creek Park
- **March 09** – Establish Membership Opportunities
- **April 09** - Add Westlake & Oakland Day Use into Lewisville Lease
- Mission:
  - **Marketing** - USACE Missions – Finalizing Website
  - **Generate Revenue Sales & Fundraising** – Planning
  - **Collect entrance/user fees - TRQ – from \$500,000 to \$2.5 Million within 2 years**
    - Fund and Manage Gate Attendants (KO)
    - Utilize NRRS as pilot USACE Partner site (OH 16%) –
    - 1<sup>st</sup> deposit \$33,960.
  - **Maximum of 50% of revenue** - Utilized for OLWF Administration
  - **Minimum of 50% revenue** - Reinvested at Lake collected
    - Maintenance/repair/or replacement of existing facilities
    - Enhance facilities to provide wider range of NRM activities
    - Planning, Development, and construction of new facilities,
    - Operational Services (for any facilities that increases O&M costs)

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## Partnership - City of The Colony –

- **USACE – Challenge Partnership with The Colony to manage low density recreation within Wildlife Classified Lands along 25 miles of shoreline.**
- **USACE maintains Fish and Wildlife ecosystem management.**
- **Status of Agreement:**
  - **Sept. 08** – Signed Cooperative Agreement (USACE assist as needed)
  - **Dec. 08** - The Colony passes enacting Ordinances to satisfy agreement
  - **Jan. 08** - Sign Low Density Park & Recreation Lease on Wildlife Lands with The City of the Colony - Managing:
    - **Mowing & Underbrushing Permits** – authorized to collect Admin. Fees
    - **Narrow Shoreline Variance** areas (collect and administer mitigation).
    - Install **Low Density Recreation Facilities** within F&W Areas – trails, fishing docks, wildlife observation platforms, fish attractors, etc. (after USACE approval)
    - **Extend Ordinances** onto Federal property and enforce all applicable laws & regulations in accordance within Title 36 and local laws & regs

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### Partnership - Jasper County - Sam Rayburn Lake

**Twin Dikes Park** – Main Economic Attraction Failing - Jasper County & City of Jasper

- Premier Boat Ramp - Fishing Tournaments in East Texas
- Floods eroding barrier islands
- Mutual determination that No Entity can manage successfully alone (\$1 - \$2 million repair)

**Partnership between USACE and:**

- Jasper County Development District #1 – w/ 8 ½ % taxing authority for sales, hotels/motels – able to expend funds - Tourism and Economic Development.
- Jasper County – ability to provide road and facility enhancements and maintenance
- USACE – Provide Service Contracts – mostly volunteer

**Prescription: Combination – Contributions, Challenge Partnership, Cooperating Assn.**

- **Dec. 08** - Contributions from JCDD #1 Winter Texan (\$7,000) & Market Winter Camping
- **Feb. 09** - Challenge Partnership w/Jasper County & JCDD #1 to assist in management of Twin Dikes Park
- **March** - Determine if there is a 501(c) organization available to enter into Cooperating Assn. Agreement
- **Summer 09** - Enter into Park & Recreation Lease for Twin Dikes Park
  - Collect Entrance and User Fees – Manage Gate Attendants
  - Reinvest User Fees Collected (100% into Park)
    - Maintenance/repair/or replacement of existing facilities
    - Enhance facilities to provide wider range of NRM activities
    - Planning, Development, and construction of new facilities

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### Partnership - Burleson County - Lake Somerville

- 80<sup>th</sup> Legislative Directed in Senate Bill 3 – that LCRA & BRA - Study the Role of Lake Somerville in Economic Development – required:
  - Baseline Analysis
  - Vision and Strategy
  - Implementation Guide and timetable
- 550 pg Study Recommendations include:
  - Flood Water Re-allocation Study - remove flood storage – Not recommended
  - Inappropriate rec: water theme parks; time shares; Stand Alone: retail, golf, shooting ranges, etc.
  - Appropriate recreation including – Camping, Picnicking, Trails, fishing piers, swimming beaches, marina's/boat rentals, resorts, dinner cruises, horse rentals, wildlife & ecosystem management, etc.
- Winning Recommendations:
  - Maintain the inherent value of the land and water
  - Business should be compatible and complement the intent and use of the USACE land and water classifications.
  - Create Lake Somerville nonprofit foundation for funding opportunities – 501 (c)(6)
- Burleson County has taxing authority for Economic Development & Tourism
- **Prescription – Cooperating Association** - USACE/Burleson County/Economic Development-for Joint Cooperative Management of Parks and Natural Resources –
  - Coordinate Appropriate Development across boundary enhancing mission and goals of each partner--

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### Lessons Learned

- A lot of Misinformation About USACE:
  - Partnership Capability
  - Lease Capability and Length of Terms
  - Land Classification
  - Water levels and mission requirements
- Potential Partners want to work within Federal Guidelines.
- Entities want "Knowledgeable Straight" talk. Be quick to not only identify what a partner can't do; but, what they can do to accomplish mutual goals.
- Partnerships build Constituency for USACE Programs!!
- Capability of having Significant Partnerships with any size community.
- Have appropriate inter-disciplinary team to answer Partnership Questions.

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## Partnerships

### Where to from Here??

- Have an Entrepreneur Mindset -
  - Identify specific Partnership Needs of Gov't
  - Identify specific Needs of Potential Partners
  - Identify potential Partners: Adjacent Entities, Tourism & Economic Development Grps.
- FTE Program support, realizing may have to wait 2-5 years to receive full benefits. Partnership programs aren't free!
- Remember Management Incentive** - reduced O&M in one location should be maintained by OPM to utilize for under funded missions at the Project or District!!!!
- PROVIDE TRAINING:** Supervisors, Volunteer Coord, and CRC Partnership Coord. - :
  - Classroom with on going Mentor –
  - Guidance on policy and ER/EP interpretation
  - oversight of program documentation
  - one partnership voice to Office of Counsel

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## END

- Questions????

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